



# President DUKAKIS

WHAT THE FIRST HUNDRED DAYS COULD BE LIKE  
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ONALD REAGAN had to feel satisfied as the limousine eased onto Pennsylvania Avenue in the last hour of his presidency, January 20, 1989. A huge banner was unfurled in Lafayette Park—THANKS, GIPPER—and the crowds lining the avenue cheered emotionally, more intent on bidding him adieu, it seemed, than on welcoming his successor.

Reagan sat misty-eyed, nodding and waving. His successor—smaller, slighter, appearing very much the junior partner—sat next to him, waving too. "They really do love you," offered Michael Dukakis with the grace and humility of a man who'd managed to sneak into the limousine with only 272 electoral votes. "You should be very happy."

"It's been quite a run," Reagan sighed. "What are you going to do with it, Mike? What's your top priority?"

"Well, I happen to be someone who believes very deeply," Dukakis reflexively began a campaign refrain, "in the need for regional economic development."

Reagan cupped his ear—maybe it was the roar of the crowd. "Did you say 'regional planning?'"

"Development," Dukakis shot back. "Not planning. Planning is theoretical. Development is real."

"Oh," Reagan said. "Well, Congress will be with you on that. Those guys love to develop. How much will it cost?"

"I'm asking for a \$500-million Fund to Rebuild America."

"Five hundred billion!" Reagan gasped. "God, you Democrats."

"Million," Dukakis corrected. "I'm a guy who doesn't believe in red ink."

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The "usual suspects" have had a tough time in recent years, since the Reagan-Gorbachev negotiations rendered obsolete most of the conventional wisdom propounded in the foreign-policy and arms-control priesthoods. Dukakis has been known to rail against arms-control "theology," and there is a widespread desire (in the political community, if not the priesthoods) for fresh air. Wild names circulate. "I'd love to see someone like Ross Perot go in there and shake up the Pentagon," says a top congressional aide.

"We'll probably wind up with Walter Mondale at State and Joe Califano at the Pentagon," laughs a Dukakis intimate in a reference to Hamilton Jordan's famous prediction that Cyrus Vance would never be Jimmy Carter's Secretary of State. And while no one would be surprised if Dukakis turned to Warren Christopher and William Perry—both solid Bentsen-like selections, highly regarded ranking officials in the Carter administration—to run State and Defense, there is a sense that Dukakis would have missed an important opportunity to foster what the Soviets call "New Thinking."

"What Dukakis really should do is look at someone like (Admiral) Bobby Inman for Defense, National Security adviser—or whatever," says a renegade member of the arms-control priesthood. "Inman is brilliant and not at all ideological—he may be one of the few people around who don't have a stake in some outmoded defense theory or other."

Inman is universally praised for his integrity during a distinguished career in naval intelligence, the National Security Agency, and the CIA. He left the government in 1982, after a quietly disputatious spell as William Casey's deputy. "If Dukakis could get over his spook background," says one adviser, "Inman would be perfect. But so far as I know, the two haven't talked." (Representative Lee Hamilton, the Indiana Democrat, is also a possible choice for State or director of Central Intelligence.)

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